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Contact:
Michelle Young, PIO
Office of Mayor Sam Liccardo
(408) 535-4830 or (408) 203-5157

Governor Signs Budget, Approves Easing Purified Water Restrictions

San Jose, Calif.: After calling for streamlined regulations in April, San José Mayor Sam Liccardo, Santa Clara Valley Water District Chair Gary Kremen, Santa Clara Mayor Jaime Matthews, and State Senator Jim Beall have succeeded in achieving fast-tracked regulations for the expansion of drought-proof purified water for groundwater replenishment when Senate Bill 88 was signed into law by Governor Brown Wednesday.

Senate Bill 88, as part of the State budget, expedites the installation of water pipelines along existing thoroughfares like City streets. Streamlining the pipelines will save millions in regulatory clearance and speed up the project by at least a year. The bill brings the City and region closer to groundwater replenishment with purified water. When built out, the project will bolster Santa Clara County's water supply by as much as 35,000 acre feet per year or enough water for 175,000 people per year.

Project Background:

With the current water supply crisis, San José Mayor Sam Liccardo, Board Chair Gary Kremen, along with Mayors from Santa Clara, Campbell and Los Gatos worked with leaders in Sacramento on SB 88, particularly to carve out language for the acceleration of recycled water reuse, called Indirect Potable Reuse ("IPR").

IPR is the advanced purification of recycled water, which then is used to fill groundwater recharge ponds, allowing it to naturally filter through an additional environmental barrier of sand, gravel and rock, and eventually restoring depleted underground aquifers.

A joint City of San José and Santa Clara Valley Water District "South Bay Water Recycling Master Plan," calls for IPR build out, with both entities ready to begin construction in order to provide a timely solution to the current drought. The passage of SB 88 will streamline the planning process for the project and shave off one or two years off the completion schedule, thus increasing the region's ability to respond to the drought.

The regional Master Plan contemplates 4 phases of program development, based on the location of the percolation ponds where the treated water will be incorporated into the aquifers. An accelerated schedule was developed based on the urgent need for drought response, and includes the following development timelines:

Phase	Project	Added Water Supply (Acre Feet Per Year or AFY)	Timeline
1	Ford Ponds	4,200	2018
2	Mid Basin Injection	5,600	2020
3	Los Gatos Percolation Ponds	20,200	2020
4	Westside Injection Wells	5,000	2025

The capital cost of Phase I, the Ford Ponds Purification Center, is estimated at \$64.4 M, and an additional \$40M for Reservoir Upgrades needed in the South Bay Water Recycle system to support water

supply to the Ford Ponds Purification Center. The construction of Phases 2 through 4 will collectively cost approximately \$522 million, and will require a substantial expansion of the capacity of the current Silicon Valley Advanced Water Purification Center by the District.

Several regional leaders and legislators worked on and/or supporting the project, specifically;

Senator Jim Beall

Senator Bob Wieckowski

Senator Bill Monning

Assembly Member Campos

Assembly Member Chu

Assembly Member Low

Assembly Member Stone

Mayor Sam Liccardo, City of San Jose

Mayor Jaime Matthews, City of Santa Clara

Chair Gary Kremen, Santa Clara Valley Water District

The Board of Directors SCVWD

Carl Guardino, CEO, Silicon Valley Leadership Group

Beau Goldie, CEO, Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD)

Kerrie Romanow, Director, Environmental Services, City of San José

The San Jose/Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce

The San Jose Water Company